

remaining species, the Great Frigate-bird *Fregata minor*, the female does have a grey chin, although at Pacific breeding sites as far apart as Laysan, the Galapagos and the Tuamotus, according to Mr. Eisenmann, Dr. Nelson and M. Jouanin, the bill is dark. However, Mr. Eisenmann has pointed out that some specimens of female *F. minor* from South Trinidad in the South Atlantic belonging to the race *nicolli* have pinkish bills in skins, and Dr. Bourne has shown me a bird like this from the British Museum collection of a series of all species in the genus which agrees most closely with the one I saw as does a photograph of a live female *F. minor* taken by Mr. P. J. Gould on Laysan in all features except the dark bill. The most likely interpretation appears to be that the bird I saw in Yorkshire was a female Great Frigate-bird of the South Atlantic race *F. minor nicolli*.

It has been suggested that frigate-birds are sedentary species and do not venture far from land, 200 miles being a figure that is often quoted. However, in their recent analysis of central Pacific ringing recoveries of the Lesser Frigate-bird, F. C. Sibley and R. B. Clapp (*Ibis* 109: 328-337) state that "during . . . pelagic surveys over 40 Great Frigate-birds were seen more than 200 miles from land and no less than nine Great Frigate-birds at distances of 500 miles or more", and go on to list recoveries of Lesser Frigate-birds thousands of miles away from the breeding places, including one in Siberia. The Great Frigate-bird has not been recorded in the North Atlantic before, but the Lesser Frigate-bird, with a similar range in the South Atlantic, was photographed in Maine, New England, in July 1960, (D. Snyder, *Auk* 78: 265), so it seems not impossible that a female Great Frigate-bird might also wander to England.

An instance of apparent sympatry between the Great and Spotted Bowerbirds

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The Great Bowerbird, *Chlamydera nuchalis*, and the Spotted Bowerbird, *C. maculata*, appear to be geographical representatives; no mention of range overlap is to be found in Marshall (1954: 72-99).

At Glendower, a property on the Flinders River, near Hughenden, central Queensland, during March and early April 1964, the Spotted Bowerbird was moderately common in the riverine forest bordering the then dry Flinders, and to a lesser extent in the semi-arid woodland further back from the river. Sometimes the species was seen singly, sometimes in groups of up to six. On 4th April I approached to within 10 feet of a Great Bowerbird as it sat drinking at a cattle trough supplied by a nearby bore. The identity of the bird was unmistakable; I had already seen it in large numbers a month before at Charters Towers. This appears to be the first recorded case of any form of sympatry between these two species.

Reference:

Marshall, A. J., 1954. *Bowerbirds*. Oxford.